

**Amendments to the claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of claims:**

Claims 1-11 (cancelled)

12 (new): A chromatographic composite material comprising a support at least partially covered by a hydrophobic polymer containing fluorine moieties obtainable by a process comprising the steps of

- contacting a support with a cross-linkable compound having at least one olefinic double bond until the support at its surface is at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound, followed by
- fluorination of the support at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound,
- removal of unreacted material, if any, and
- recovering said composite material.

- 13 (new): A chromatographic composite material for separation of DNA and RNA from proteins and other substances comprising a support at least partially covered by a hydrophobic polymer containing fluorine moieties obtainable by a process comprising the steps of
- contacting a support with a cross-linkable compound having at least one olefinic double bond until the support at its surface is at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound, followed by
  - fluorination of the support at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound,
  - removal of unreacted material, if any, and
  - recovering said composite material in preparative or analytical scale,
- wherein the composite material specifically binds the proteins and other substances but specifically does not bind the DNA and RNA.
- 14 (new): The composite material according to claim 12, wherein the support is comprised of a porous inorganic metal oxide.
- 15 (new): The composite material according to claim 14, wherein said inorganic metal oxide is selected from the group consisting of oxides of aluminum, titanium, zirconium, silicon, and iron and mixtures thereof.

- 16 (new): The composite material according to claim 12, wherein said cross-linkable compound is an oligomer of a substituted or unsubstituted diene.
- 17 (new): The composite material according to claim 16, wherein said oligomer is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> olefinic dienes.
- 18 (new): The composite material according to claim 16, wherein the oligomer is butadiene, isoprene, chloroprene, or piperilene or a mixture thereof.
- 19 (new): The composite material of claim 16, wherein the averaged molecular weight of the oligomer is in the range of from 2 kD to 300 kD.
- 20 (new): The composite material according to claim 12, wherein the fluorination is performed with XeF<sub>2</sub> or a mixture of fluorine and nitrogen, or XeF<sub>2</sub> and a mixture of fluorine and nitrogen.
- 21 (new): A chromatographic column or cartridge at least partially filled with the composite material according to claim 12.
- 22 (new): A microporous filter material comprising the composite material according to claim 12 embedded in a polymeric matrix.

23 (new): The microporous filter material according to claim 22, wherein said polymeric matrix is a nylon membrane.

24 (new): The composite material according to claim 12 in bulk form for performing fast sample preparations or chromatographic separations of DNA.

25 (new): The composite material according to claim 24, for conducting the separation of DNA from other substances in one step.

26 (new): An item containing the composite material according to claim 12 wherein the item is a chromatographic column or cartridge or a microporous filter material.

27 (new): The item material according to claim 26, in combination with filter materials, reagents and/or buffers, chemicals and/or other devices for performing fast sample preparations or chromatographic separations of DNA and RNA.

28 (new): A method of chromatographic separation comprising applying a source of DNA, RNA, proteins, and the substances to a chromatographic composite material that specifically binds the proteins and other substances but specifically does not bind the DNA and RNA, wherein the

composite material comprises a support at least partially covered by a hydrophobic polymer containing fluorine moieties obtainable by a process comprising the steps of

- contacting a support with a cross-linkable compound having at least one olefinic double bond until the support at its surface is at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound, followed by
- fluorination of the support at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound,
- removal of unreacted material, if any, and
- recovering said composite material in preparative or analytical scale.

29 (new): The method of claim 28, wherein separation of DNA and RNA from proteins and other substances is conducted in one step.

30 (new): The composite material according to claim 13, wherein the support is a porous inorganic metal oxide.

31 (new): A chromatographic separation item containing the composite material according to claim 13.